

Claims 1 and 2

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,528,222 to Moskowitz et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,751,221 to Stanfield et al. Applicant traverses these rejections.

The Cited References

U.S. Patent No. 5,528,222 to Moskowitz et al. shows an RF ID tag 200 in FIG. 2:

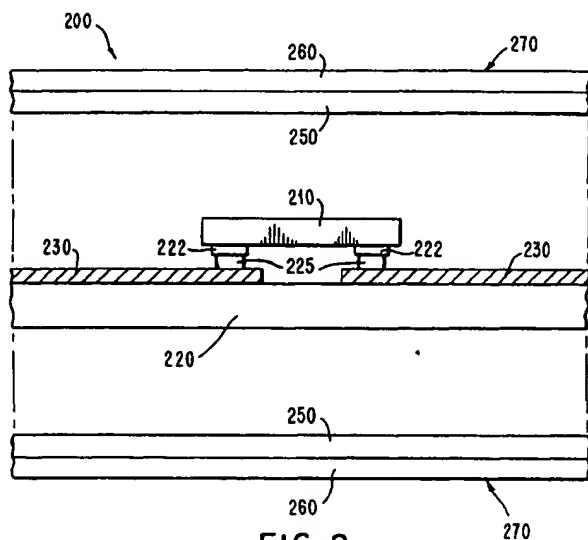


FIG. 2

A chip 210 is located on a flexible substrate 220. The chip 210 with bumps 225 on contacts 222 is bonded to an antenna 230 contained on the substrate 220. The package is sealed by thin flexible laminations 270 consisting of a hot-melt 250 such as EVA on the inside and an outer coating 260 of a polymeric material on the outside.

Moskowitz et al. provide examples of how the RF ID tag 200 can be used. For example, in combination with a passport as shown in FIG. 9:

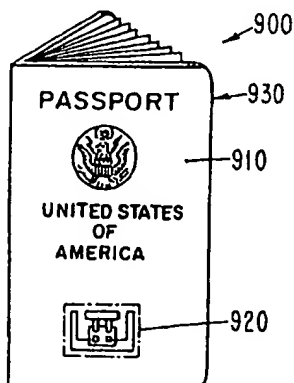


FIG. 9

FIG. 9 shows a thin RF tag 920 embedded in the cover 910 of passport 930 to form an RF passport 900. Here the tag is sandwiched between the paper covers of the passport. The tag can have an environmental laminate(s) (270, 370) as described above or alternatively, the passport cover can be used as the tag laminate(s) (270, 370).

U.S. Patent No. 5,751,221 to Stanfield et al. shows an electronic filing system. A wireless version is shown in FIG. 15 in which RF transceivers 120 are connected to processor 20 and either to each file folder 70 or to each folder retainer, which refers to tray 40, file cabinet 50, shelving unit 60, and desk drawer 86.

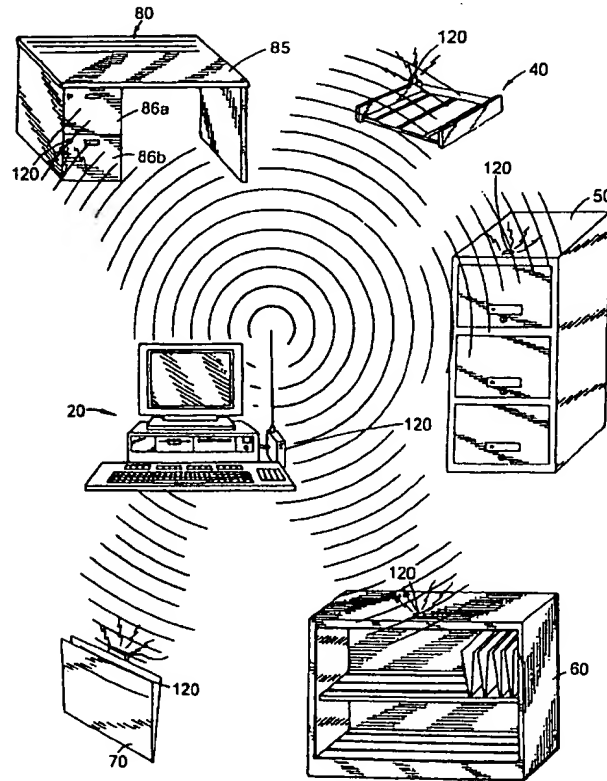


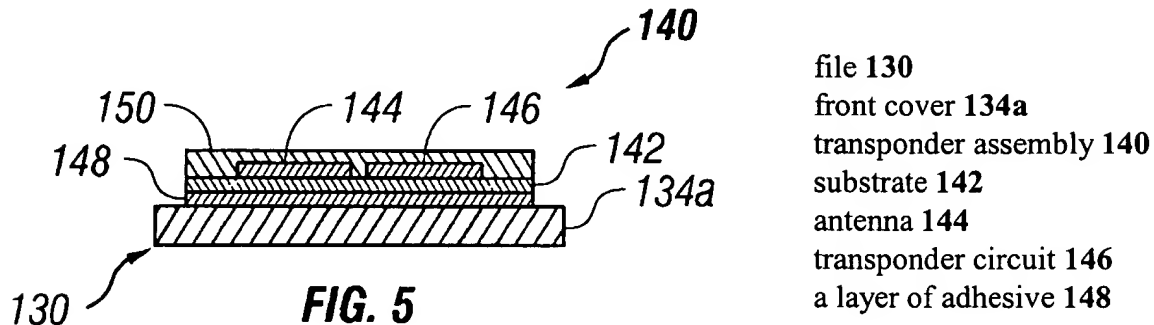
Fig. 15

Discussion of Claim 1

Neither of the cited patents shows a file as recited in claim 1 which includes a body with a pair of covers and a transponder assembly attached to one of the covers with adhesive. Briefly, claim 1 recites a file including:

- a body including a pair of covers; and
 - a transponder assembly including ... a substrate [and] ... an adhesive layer ... ;
- the transponder assembly being attached to one of the covers by the adhesive.

FIG. 5 of the subject application shows an example of the file recited in claim 1, with the claim elements with corresponding reference numerals provided:

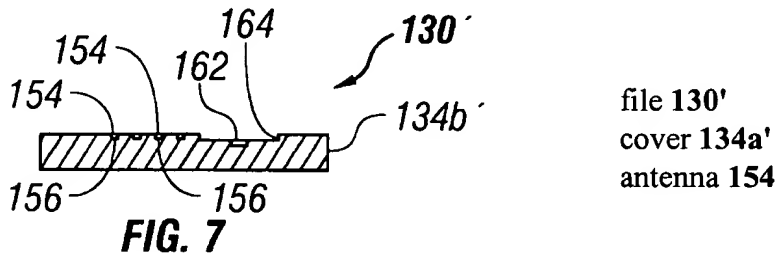


The Moskowitz et al. patent shows that an RF ID tag 200 is sandwiched between paper covers 910 of a passport 930 as shown in FIG. 9, or between paper covers of an admission ticket 1010 as shown in FIG. 10 (see column 7, lines 6–9). The Stanfield et al. patent shows that an RF transceiver 120 is connected to a file folder 70. Neither the Moskowitz et al. nor Stanfield et al. patent mentions a transponder assembly with an adhesive layer on a substrate, with the adhesive layer attaching the assembly to a cover.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established by the Patent Office because the cited references do not provide any suggestion on how to combine or modify the references, with the combination or modification being sufficient to render the file of claim 1 obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over the Moskowitz et al. and Stanfield et al. patents and is in condition for allowance.

Discussion of Claim 2

Claim 2 sets forth a file in which an antenna of a transponder assembly is embedded on one of the covers of a body. An example of the file recited in claim 2 is shown in FIG. 7:



In contrast to the file recited in claim 2 in which an antenna is embedded in a cover, the Moskowitz et al. patent shows an RF ID tag sandwiched between paper covers. The Stanfield et al. patent shows that an RF transceiver connected to a file folder. Neither the Moskowitz et al. nor Stanfield et al. patent mentions a file with an antenna embedded in a cover.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established by the Patent Office because the cited references do not provide any suggestion on how to combine or modify the references, with the combination or modification being sufficient to render the file of claim 2 obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is patentable over the Moskowitz et al. and Stanfield et al. patents and is in condition for allowance.

Claim 3

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,528,222 to Moskowitz et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,751,221 to Stanfield et al. and U.S. Patent No. 5,936,527 to Isaacman et al. Applicant traverses this rejection.

The Cited References

The Moskowitz et al. and Stanfield et al. patents are discussed above. U.S. Patent No. 5,936,527 to Isaacman et al. shows an automatic tag system in FIG. 3 that includes a plurality of RFID tags 20 attached to documents (not shown) whose location is desired to be located/identified at some point in time. A plurality of local exciters 18 are placed on the shelves and drawers in an office. A host transceiver 14 is placed in a central location in the office and transmits a radio frequency signal to the local exciter 18. The local exciter 18 transmits a signal to a plurality of tags 20. Thereafter, if one of the tags 20 is selected, then that tag's response is detected by the host 14.

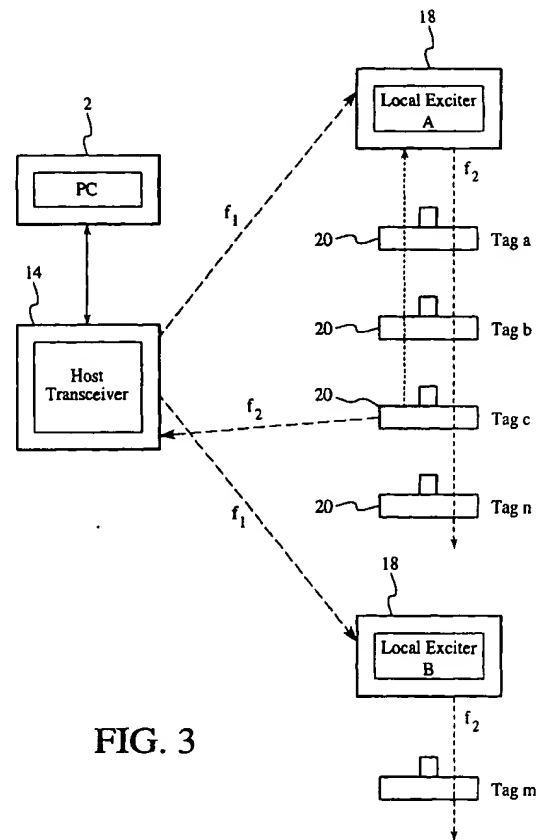


FIG. 3

Discussion of Claim 3

Claim 3 sets forth a system for tracking objects including a plurality of antenna arrays, a plurality of files, a reader, and an administrator. The files include a transponder assembly attached to a cover by adhesive, analogous to the file of claim 1 discussed above.

As mentioned above, neither of the Moskowitz et al. and Stanfield et al. patents show a file with a transponder attached with adhesive. The Isaacman et al. patent also does not talk about or show attaching a transponder to a file with adhesive.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established by the Patent Office because the cited references do not provide any suggestion on how to combine or modify the references, with the combination or modification being sufficient to render the file of claim 3 obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, it is

respectfully submitted that claim 3 is patentable over the Moskowitz et al., Stanfield et al., and Isaacman et al. patents and is in condition for allowance.

Claim 4

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,528,222 to Moskowitz et al. Applicant traverses this rejection.

The Cited References

The Moskowitz et al. patent is discussed above.

Discussion of Claim 4

Claim 4 sets forth a label transponder assembly including a transponder assembly and a backing sheet. The transponder assembly includes:

a substrate ...;

an adhesive layer disposed on ... the substrate.

The backing sheet is releasably attached to the adhesive layer. An example of the label transponder assembly as recited in claim 4 is shown in FIGS. 11 and 12:

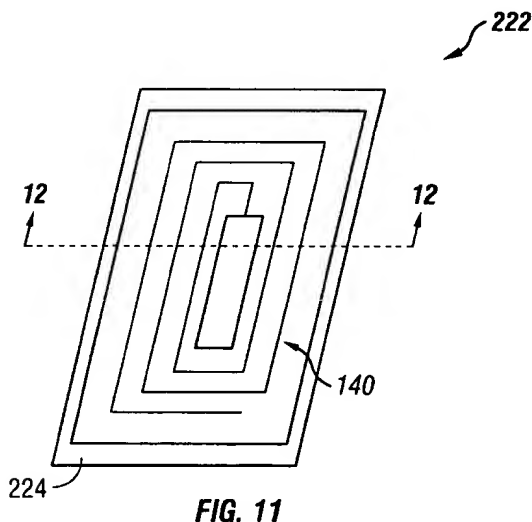


FIG. 11

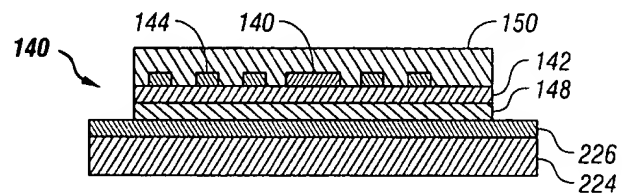


FIG. 12

transponder assembly 140
 substrate 142
 adhesive layer 148
 transponder label assembly 222
 backing sheet 224
 a release layer 226

A user may employ the transponder label assembly of claim 4 in retrofitting objects for tracking by peeling the transponder assembly 140 off of the backing sheet 224 for adhering to an object.

As discussed above, the Moskowitz et al. patent does not show or describe a file with a transponder assembly in the form of a label with adhesive and a backing sheet. Rather, the Moskowitz et al. patent sandwiches an RF ID tag between the paper covers of, e.g., a passport or an admission ticket. Thus, there is no need for adhesive when using the Moskowitz et al. RF ID tag.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established by the Patent Office because the cited references do not provide any suggestion on how to combine or modify the references, with the combination or modification being sufficient to render the file of claim 4 obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is patentable over the Moskowitz et al. patent and is in condition for allowance.

CLOSING COMMENTS

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application, including claims 1-4, is in condition for allowance. Early notification of the same is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if he believes there are any issues which may remain preventing the allowance of the claims and the passage of the application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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